

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1333 - HB 1884

March 24, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Decreases, from 15 percent to 10 percent, the portion of voters who are required to sign a petition for a recall, referendum, or initiative in order for it to be placed on the ballot. Adds a requirement that if the recall is being filed against an office holder who represents a district smaller than the entire municipality, then the petition shall be signed by at least 10 percent of registered voters in that respective district. Requires the petition to be filed on regular letter or legal size paper and authorizes the election commission to accept signed copies of the petition in various formats as long as the petitions contain the exact language as approved by the commission. Requires completed petitions to be filed with the county election commission within 90 days before any state, federal, municipal or county election may be held on the question. If filed less than 90 days before the election, the question shall be placed on the following state, federal, municipal or county election. If a city or county charter addresses the number of signatures or timeframe for filing the petition, then the charter controls.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Currently a petition must be signed by at least 15 percent of registered voters in the municipality or county.
- County election commission offices will not require additional personnel or resources to verify that all requirements have been met and to place any such question on the ballot.
- The procedural requirements of the bill will be handled in the normal course of office business.
- The fiscal impact to local government will be not significant since any question placed on the ballot will be held with the regularly scheduled election.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/rct